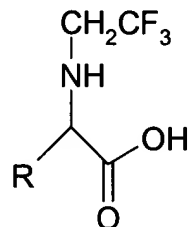


## Amendments to the Claims

Please find below a complete listing of the claims including status identifiers.

1-19. Canceled.

20. (Currently Amended) ~~A composition comprising an~~ An N-alpha trifluoroethyl amino acid compound having the generic formula:



wherein R is selected from the group consisting of alkyls, hydrogen, aromatic groups, amines, thioalkyl groups, sulfur containing aromatic groups, heterocyclic groups, and combinations thereof.

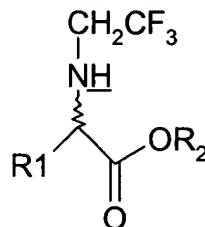
21. (Currently Amended) ~~The composition~~ N-alpha trifluoroethyl amino acid compound of claim 20, in which R comprises an aromatic ring.

22. (Currently Amended) ~~The composition~~ N-alpha trifluoroethyl amino acid compound of claim 20, in which the N-alpha trifluoroethyl amino acid is N-alpha trifluoroethyl phenylalanine.

23. (Currently Amended) ~~The composition~~ N-alpha trifluoroethyl amino acid compound of claim 20, in which the N-alpha trifluoroethyl amino acid is N-alpha trifluoroethyl tyrosine.

24. (Currently Amended) ~~The composition~~ N-alpha trifluoroethyl amino acid compound of claim 20, in which the N-alpha trifluoroethyl amino acid is N-alpha trifluoroethyl valine.

25. (Currently Amended) ~~A composition comprising an~~ An N-alpha trifluoroethyl amino acid ester compound having the generic formula:



wherein R1 and R2 are independently selected from the group consisting of alkyls, hydrogen, aromatic groups, amines, thioalkyl groups, sulfur containing aromatic groups, heterocyclic groups, and combinations thereof.

26. (Currently Amended) The ~~composition~~ N-alpha trifluoroethyl amino acid ester compound of claim 25, in which R1 comprises an aromatic ring.

27. (Currently Amended) The ~~composition~~ N-alpha trifluoroethyl amino acid ester compound of claim 25, in which R2 comprises an alkane.

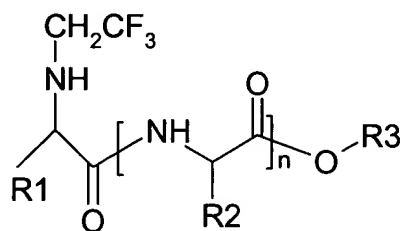
28. (Currently Amended) The ~~composition~~ N-alpha trifluoroethyl amino acid ester compound of claim 27, in which the alkane comprises a carbon chain having less than about 6 carbons.

29. (Currently Amended) The ~~composition~~ N-alpha trifluoroethyl amino acid ester compound of claim 27, in which R2 comprises a t-butyl group.

30. Canceled.

31. (Previously Presented) A peptide comprising a terminal N-alpha trifluoroethyl amino acid.

32. (Previously Presented) The peptide of claim 31, wherein the peptide comprises the general structure:

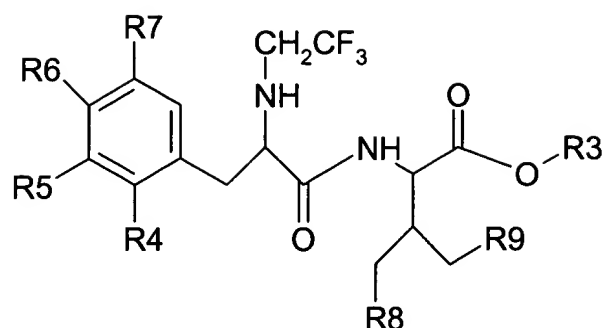


wherein R1, R2, and R3 are independently selected from the group consisting of alkyls, hydrogen, aromatic groups, amines, thioalkyl groups, sulfur containing aromatic groups, heterocyclic groups, and combinations thereof; and  
n is greater than or equal to 1.

33. Canceled.

34. (Previously Presented) The peptide of claim 32, wherein the peptide is a dipeptide.

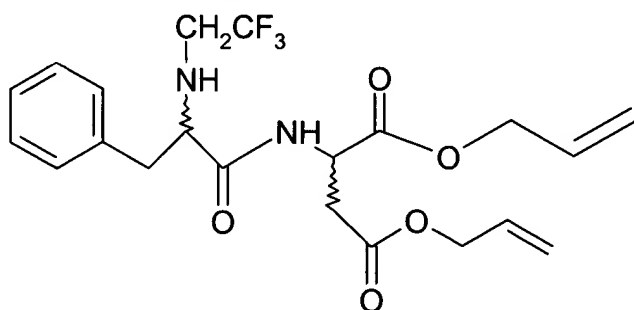
35. (Previously Presented) The peptide of claim 34, wherein the dipeptide has the general formula:



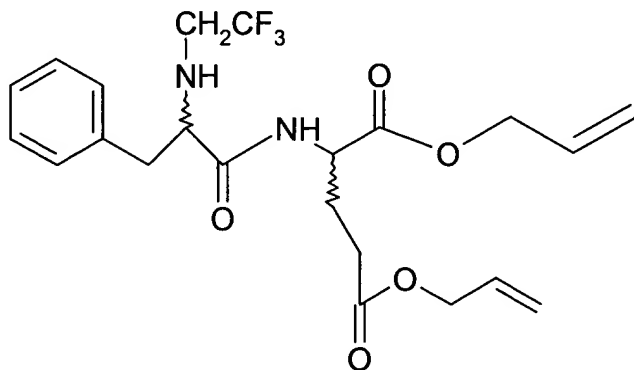
wherein R4, R5, R6, R7, R8, and R9 each are independently selected from the group consisting of alkyls, hydrogen, aromatic groups, amines, thioalkyl groups, sulfur containing aromatic groups, heterocyclic compounds, and combinations thereof.

36. (Previously Presented) The peptide of claim 34, wherein R1 comprises a phenyl group.

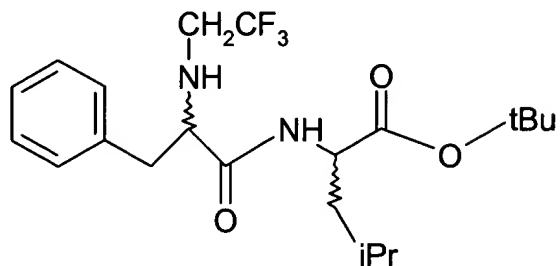
37. (Previously Presented) The peptide of claim 36, wherein the peptide has the structure represented by:



38. (Previously Presented) The peptide of claim 36, wherein the peptide has the structure represented by:

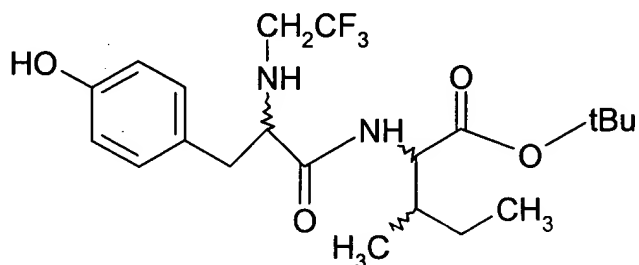


39. (Previously Presented) The peptide of claim 36, wherein the peptide has the structure represented by:

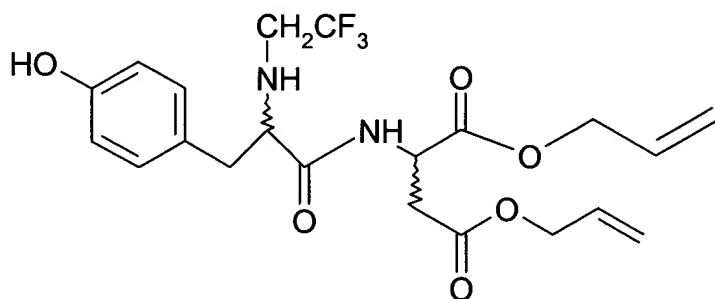


40. (Previously Presented) The peptide of claim 34, wherein R1 comprises a p-methylphenol group.

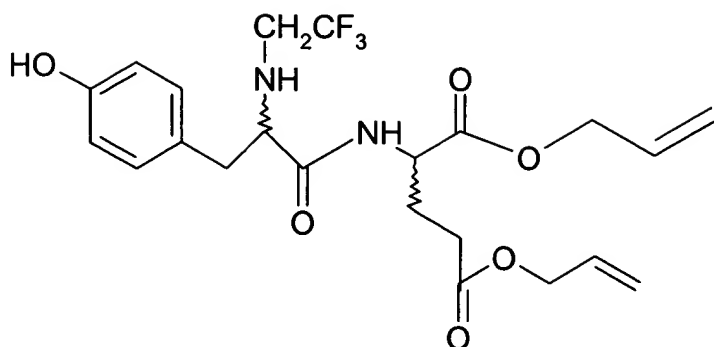
41. (Previously Presented) The peptide of claim 40, wherein the peptide has the structure represented by:



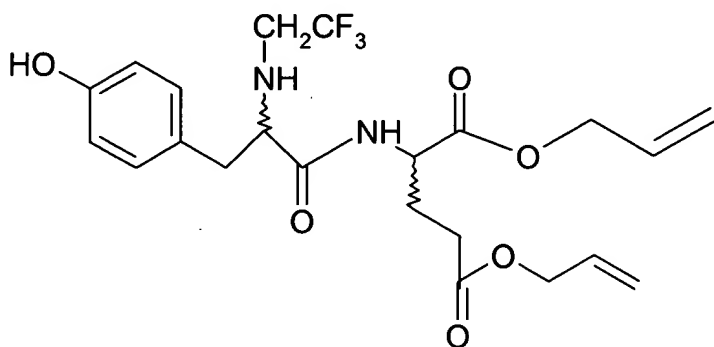
42. (Previously Presented) The peptide of claim 40, wherein the peptide has the structure represented by:



43. (Previously Presented) The peptide of claim 40, wherein the peptide has the structure represented by:

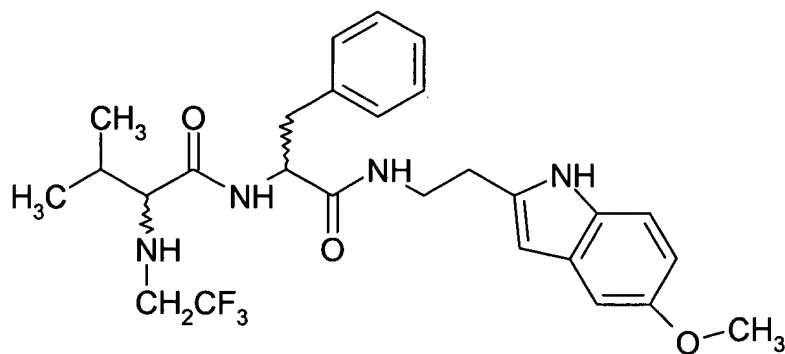


44. (Previously Presented) The peptide of claim 34, wherein the peptide has the structure represented by:



45. Canceled.

46. (Previously Presented) The peptide of claim 31, wherein the peptide comprises the structure of:



47. (Previously Presented) The peptide of claim 31, wherein the peptide comprises the structure of:

